

Message Text

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ORIGIN PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 SS-15 CCO-00
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O 100002Z MAY 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ACCRA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY

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SECRETARY'S PARTY FOR HODDING CARTER FROM S/PRS (FRED BROWN)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, AF

SUBJECT: DAILY BRIEFING: AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S AFRICA TRIP

NO. 15

1. HERewith TWO VERBATIM EXCERPTS FROM OUR DAILY BRIEFING
CONCERNING THE YOUNG TRIP WHICH CONTAIN MOST OF THE
GUIDANCE WE HAVE BEEN USING ON THE SUBJECT.

2. BEGIN EXCERPTS:
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ON AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S TRIP TO AFRICA, I WILL FILL YOU IN ON
SOME OF THE DETAILS. I THINK MOST OF YOU ALREADY KNOW THAT
AMBASSADOR ANDREW YOUNG, ACCOMPANIED BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY
FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS, C. WILLIAM MAYNES,
OTHER STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS, AND A DELEGATION FROM THE
U.S. PRESS, WILL VISIT SEVERAL AFRICAN COUNTRIES AND

PORTUGAL.

THE GROUP WILL LEAVE TODAY BY MILITARY AIRCRAFT AND WILL FLY TO ABIDJAN, THE IVORY COAST, FOR THE CHIEFS OF MISSION CONFERENCE -- AMERICAN AMBASSADORS -- IN AFRICA ON MAY 10 TO 12.

THEN, ON MAY 13TH AMBASSADOR YOUNG WILL BE VISITING ACCRA, GHANA.

Q STILL WITH MR. MAYNES?

A YES, I BELIEVE THAT MR. MAYNES WILL CONTINUE WITH HIM. ACCRA, GHANA, AND LAGOS, NIGERIA, WHERE AMBASSADOR YOUNG WILL CONFER WITH NATIONAL LEADERS ON AFRICAN AND OTHER MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST.

THEN, ON MAY 14TH HE WILL FLY TO LISBON TO MEET WITH VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE.

NOW, ONE SMALL PIECE ON BACKGROUND, IF I MAY, AT THAT POINT. THERE MAY BE OTHER AFRICAN STOPS. END BACKGROUND.

NOW, ON MAY 16TH, THE PARTY WILL PROCEED TO MAPUTO, MOZAMBIQUE, TO ATTEND THE U.N.-SPONSORED CONFERENCE ON SOUTHERN AFRICA. THAT MEETING, AS I UNDERSTAND IT, GOES TO MAY 21ST.

NOW, THE OBVIOUS QUESTION OF A POSSIBLE TRIP TO SOUTH UNCLASSIFIED

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AFRICA. WE ARE STILL WORKING ON THAT--THE PROCESS OF MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA. WE HAVE REQUESTED SOUTH AFRICAN PERMISSION FOR THE VISIT, AND WE ARE AWAITING THEIR REPLY.

THAT IS ABOUT WHERE THE MATTER STANDS. I DON'T HAVE ANY OTHER INFORMATION TO GIVE YOU ON THE STATUS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN VISIT. . . .

Q WHY ARE YOU INVOLVED IN IT AT ALL IF AMBASSADOR YOUNG IS ON A PRIVATE VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA?

A WELL, HE IS TRAVELLING. HE IS A HIGH PUBLIC OFFICIAL. AND INEVITABLY WE ARE INVOLVED IN IT, MARVIN, GIVEN THE CONNOTATIONS.

Q SO IT ISN'T REALLY PRIVATE.

A WELL, THE LINE BETWEEN PRIVATE AND PUBLIC BECOMES VERY

THIN, BUT WE HAVE CHARACTERIZED IT AS A PRIVATE VISIT AT THE INVITATION OF THE UNIVERSITY AND OF SOUTH AFRICAN BUSINESSMEN. THAT ASPECT OF IT IS PRIVATE. BUT AMBASSADOR YOUNG IS QUITE OBVIOUSLY A PUBLIC FIGURE OF CABINET RANK, AND, AS SUCH, HAS AN OFFICIAL CHARACTER.

Q ARE YOU INVOLVED ONLY TO GET HIM A VISA?

A I DON'T KNOW THE NATURE OF ALL THE ARRANGEMENTS WE ARE INVOLVED WITH, BUT WE ARE CERTAINLY IN CONTACT WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT TO FACILITATE OBTAINING PERMISSION AND GETTING HIM INTO THE COUNTRY.

Q ONE REASON FOR PRESSING THIS POINT ABOUT A PRIVATE VISIT IS THAT THERE ARE NOW SOME NEWS STORIES THAT INDICATE THAT NOW, WHEN IT IS ALL SETTLED, HE WILL SEE PRIME MINISTER VORSTER.

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A I HAVE NO INDICATION OF THAT, GRAHAM. I THINK I SAID ON FRIDAY THAT HE HAD NO PRESENT PLANS TO MEET WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS THERE, BUT, OBVIOUSLY, IF AN INVITATION ARISES, HE WOULD CONSIDER IT. THAT IS ABOUT THE WAY I HAD IT ON FRIDAY, AND THAT STILL OBTAINS.

Q FRED, DOES HE HAVE ANY PLANS TO MEET WITH BLACK LEADERS IN RHODESIA?

A I CAN'T REALLY ADD ANYTHING TO WHAT I SAID ON A SIMILAR QUESTION ON FRIDAY, BARRY, AND ALSO A SIMILAR RESPONSE TO GRAHAM'S QUESTION A MOMENT AGO. I DON'T KNOW OF ANY SUCH PLANS.

Q YOU DON'T KNOW OF ANY SUCH PLANS. BUT WHAT ABOUT THE SECOND HALF OF YOUR ANSWER TO THE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS-- BUT HE WOULD CONSIDER IT IF HE WERE ASKED.

A OBVIOUSLY, IF AN INVITATION WERE EXTENDED, HE, LIKE ANYONE ELSE, WOULD HAVE TO CONSIDER IT.

Q FRED, IF YOU HAVE TO WORK ON FACILITATING GETTING HIM INTO THE COUNTRY, IS THE IMPLICATION THERE THAT HE IS HAVING DIFFICULTY GETTING PERMISSION?

A NO, I WOULDN'T CHARACTERIZE IT AS DIFFICULTY. OBVIOUSLY, HE IS A PROMINENT PERSON, AND THAT TAKES ON AN OFFICIAL CHARACTER IN TERMS OF OUR SUPPORTING HIS REQUEST, AND REQUESTING PERMISSION FROM THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT.

Q BUT ON A PRIVATE VISIT, AN ORDINARY AMERICAN CAN GET A VISA IN A DAY. JUST WALK INTO THE EMBASSY AND ASK FOR IT.

A I THINK WE SAID LAST WEEK THAT THE ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN INITIATED BY HIS GOSTS AT THE UNIVERSITY AND THE UNCLASSIFIED

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BUSINESSMEN INVOLVED. WE ARE SUPPORTING THAT AND REQUESTING THE GOVERNMENT TO DO THE NECESSARY FOR HIM TO ENTER THE COUNTRY.

Q DOES THE SECRETARY OF STATE APPROVE OF ANDREW YOUNG GOING TO AFRICA NOW, PARTICULARLY SOUTH AFRICA?

A I AM SURE HE DOES.

Q LAST MONTH, ANDREW YOUNG SAID HE HATES TO HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA. IS THIS AN APPROPRIATE PERSON, THEN, TO SEND TO SOUTH AFRICA, IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S VIEW?

A WELL, I AM NOT GOING TO COMMENT ON THINGS THAT AMBASSADOR YOUNG MAY HAVE SAID LAST WEEK OR THE WEEK BEFORE, OR WHAT HAVE YOU. IT JUST DOESN'T CONTRIBUTE ANYTHING, I THINK. HIS VISIT HAS THE SUPPORT AND APPROVAL OF THE DEPARTMENT. IT HAS BEEN REVIEWED AND APPROVED AT THE SENIOR LEVEL OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHORTLY AFTER HE RECEIVED THESE INVITATIONS FROM THE UNIVERSITY AND THE BUSINESSMEN.

I MIGHT ADD THAT VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE WAS INFORMED OF AND AGREED TO THE TRIP. SO, I WOULD LIKE TO PUT TO REST, IF I MAY, SOME OF THE IMPLICATIONS, PERHAPS, OF YOUR QUESTIONING.

Q I DON'T KNOW WHAT MY IMPLICATIONS WERE, LET ALONE MY INFERENCES, BUT --

A THEY WERE YOUR INFERENCES --

Q BUT MR. YOUNG, OR AMBASSADOR YOUNG, SAID THAT -- I AM QUOTING FREELY HERE BECAUSE I WASN'T THERE -- BUT SATURDAY HE THOUGHT THAT A LOT OF THE CONTROVERSY HAS BEEN STIRRED UNCLASSIFIED

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UP BY THE PRESS AND BY LEAKS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERN-

MENT. IS THAT HIS PROBLEM? HAS THE PRESS BEEN UNKIND TO
ANDREW YOUNG?

A I WOULDN'T WANT TO SAY THAT YOU HAVE BEEN UNKIND AT
AT ALL, BARRY. THAT IS NOT MY POSITION TO STAND UP HERE
AND CHASTISE. I WOULDN'T WANT TO VENTURE AN OPINION ON
THAT. END EXCERPTS.

3. FOR CARTER: OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST FROM BRIEFING
BEING SENT SEPTEL. CHRISTOPHER

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